

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 273



Introduced by Representatives Bryan B. Revilla, Lani Mercado-Revilla, and Ramon Jolo B. Revilla III

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MAGNA CARTA FOR AMBULANT VENDORS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 3, Article XIII of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that the State shall afford full protection to labor, local and overseas, organized and unorganized, and promote full employment and equality of employment opportunities for all. This recognizes that ordinary Filipino workers – both in the formal and informal sectors – are the backbone of the economy. It is through their sheer hard work that our country can achieve genuine economic progress.

Informal workers in the Philippines, particularly ambulant vendors or street vendors, face challenges due to the lack of secure employment contracts, benefits, social protection, and representation. The 2018 Informal Sector Survey reveals that the informal sector employs 15.68 million people in the Philippines, representing 38% of the working population and contributing significantly to the economy.¹

Despite such contributions, ambulant vendors, a vital part of the informal sector, operate outside legal frameworks and face vulnerabilities due to absence of social protection. Additionally, they frequently encounter challenges including the threat of eviction and confiscation of goods, further destabilizing their livelihood. They also struggle with insufficient capital leading to inadequate income. Sufficient government support will alleviate their plight.

Thus, there is an urgent need for a comprehensive legislation to protect their rights and enhance their social security. The proposed Magna Carta for Ambulant Vendors seeks to address these issues by providing a legal framework that ensures their rights, protection, and support mechanisms. This bill aims to recognize their contributions, safeguard their livelihoods, and promote their welfare, thereby fostering a just and inclusive economy.

In view of the foregoing, the expedient passage of this measure is earnestly sought.

¹Philippine Institute for Development Studies (2023). Retrieved from:
<https://www.pids.gov.ph/details/news/in-the-news/informal-power-opinion-piece-by-george-royeca>



REP. BRYAN B. REVILLA
AGIMAT Party-list



REP. LANI MERCADO-REVILLA
Representative, 2nd District of Cavite



REP. RAMON SOLO B. REVILLA III
Representative, 1st District of Cavite

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SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Magna Carta for Informal Ambulant Vendors.”

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to:

(a) Recognize the significant contribution of informal ambulant vendors to the economy, to protect and promote the rights of every worker including the right to self-organization, just and humane conditions of work, access to social protection programs and services, access to justice, and the right to security of and in the workplace;

(b) Promote a just and dynamic social order that shall ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote decent and environmentally sound and full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all; and

(c) Improve the quality of life of every Filipino as mandated by the Constitution.

To this end, the State shall protect the informal ambulant vendors from being deprived of their livelihood as well as the rights of consumers and the general public from any negative effect that the vending industry may have on the environment and on societal welfare and well-being.

SEC. 3. *Coverage.* – This Act shall cover informal ambulant vendors who are registered pursuant to this Act and not registered under any other law.

SEC. 4. *Definition of Informal Ambulant Vendors.* – Informal ambulant vendors refer to individuals who sell goods or offer non-professional services without a fixed business location, moving from place to place, typically using portable means like carts or stands, and operate in public spaces, such as streets and parks: Provided, That an individual who lends money or extends any means of financial services to any person, whether occasionally or habitually, as a source of income or livelihood shall not be deemed an ambulant vendor.

SEC. 5. *Registration of Informal Ambulant Vendors.* – All informal ambulant vendors shall register with the city, municipality, or barangay where they are vending or intend to vend within the territorial jurisdiction of such city, municipality or barangay.

The registration of informal ambulant vendors shall be simplified and shall not follow the regular procedure in registering businesses and other commercial activities in an LGU.

In the registration of informal ambulant vendors, the following documents shall be required:

- (a) Valid government-issued identification card;
- (b) Certification from the Punong Barangay attesting that the informal ambulant vendor is a resident of the barangay;
- (c) A duly accomplished Registration Form indicating the vending site where such informal ambulant vendor is vending or intends to vend; and
- (d) Certificate of Indigency.

Within seven (7) days after submission of documents, a certificate shall be issued by the concerned LGU to the applicant informal ambulant vendor.

SEC. 6. *Rights of Informal Ambulant Vendors.* – Informal ambulant vendors have the following rights:

- (a) Right to renewal of registration as informal ambulant vendors for such designated vending place, subject to said person's continued qualification as an informal ambulant vendor;
- (b) Right to security of tenure in the designated vending place as assigned by the concerned LGU;
- (c) Right to be recognized in other LGUs upon securing a prior certificate from the other LGU; and
- (d) Right to social protection and safety nets, labor market programs, and social welfare interventions such as social security, health care, and insurance.

SEC. 7. *Local Inter-Agency Council on the Security and Protection of Registered Informal Ambulant Vendors.* – The City or Municipal Mayor shall establish a Local Inter-Agency Council through an appropriate local ordinance within one (1) year from the effectivity of this Act. This Council shall be responsible for coordinating efforts to ensure the security and protection of registered informal ambulant vendors.

The Local Inter-Agency Council shall be headed by the City or Municipal

Administrator and shall be composed of the following as members:

- (a) Chairperson of the Sanggunian Committee on Market, Business, or Trade;
- (b) City or Municipal Planning and Development Officer;
- (c) City or Municipal Market Administrator, or a person holding an equivalent position;
- (d) Chief, City or Municipal Police;
- (e) Municipal or City Health Officer;
- (f) President, Association of Barangay Chairpersons;
- (g) At least two (2) representatives from the City or Municipal Vendors Association; and
- (h) In the case of Metropolitan Manila, a representative from the Metro Manila Development Authority.

SEC. 8. *Powers and Functions.* – The Local Inter-Agency Council shall perform the following functions:

- (a) Formulate plans, programs, projects or activities that shall ensure the security of registered informal ambulant vendors in the workplace for the approval of the Sanggunian;
- (b) Recommend appropriate measures to the City or Municipal Mayor and the Sanggunian to enhance the participation of registered informal ambulant vendors in local socioeconomic development efforts;
- (c) Assist in conducting surveys on vacant areas for vending sites; and
- (d) Conduct regular inspections and monitor the compliance of registered informal ambulant vendors to health and safety standards.

SEC. 9. *Authority to Designate a Vending Site.* – Pursuant to the recommendation of the Local Inter-Agency Council, the concerned Sanggunian shall designate a vending site through an ordinance. The use of a public park, city or municipal street, or sidewalk for vending purposes shall be subject to the provisions of Sections 16 to 21 of Republic Act (RA) No. 7160, otherwise known as the “Local Government Code of 1991,” and RA No. 4136, otherwise known as the “Land Transportation and Traffic Code.”

SEC. 10. *Prior Consultation Required.* – No vending site shall be designated unless prior consultation with informal ambulant vendors, the local police, and the affected inhabitants is undertaken.

SEC. 11. *Policy on Relocation of Vending Sites.* – Registered informal ambulant

vendors shall not be arbitrarily deprived of their vending sites nor their stalls demolished without due process of law.

Pending the designation of a viable vending site, vendors occupying a public place not previously designated as a vending site shall be provided with a viable temporary vending site by the city or municipal government.

The removal of informal ambulant vendors from their designated vending sites shall be done with due process and no violence, demolition, destruction, or confiscation of the property and goods of registered informal ambulant vendors.

SEC. 12. *Health and Safety Standards.* – All registered informal ambulant vendors shall comply with basic health and safety standards to be established by the concerned LGU in coordination with the Local Inter-Agency Council in accordance with RA No. 11058, entitled, “An Act Strengthening Compliance with Occupational Safety and Health Standards and Providing Penalties for Violations Thereof.”

SEC. 13. *Revocation of Certificate.* – Certificates issued to informal ambulant vendors shall be revoked by the appropriate LGU in case of misdeclaration or misrepresentation in their documentary requirements: Provided, That the concerned informal ambulant vendor shall be accorded due process.

SEC. 14. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government shall promulgate the necessary implementing rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 15. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 16. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, orders, rules, and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 17. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,